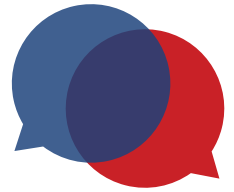


# Healing through Policy: Creating Pathways to Racial Justice

## RACIAL HEALING AND RELATIONSHIP BUILDING: AN OVERVIEW



“Healing Through Policy: Creating Pathways to Racial Justice” is a national initiative that offers local leaders a suite of policies and practices to move communities and policymakers from commitment to action for health, racial equity, and justice.

Local leaders can adopt and implement all or some of the policies and practices curated through the initiative to help promote racial healing and address social inequities.

These options are guided by the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation framework, which offers an overarching comprehensive strategy for adaptation by local communities and organizations

to support progress toward needed systemic transformation. The framework addresses the foundational components of Narrative Change, Racial Healing and Relationship Building, Separation, Law, and Economy.

*Healing Through Policy* is an initiative of the American Public Health Association, the de Beaumont Foundation, and the National Collaborative for Health Equity.

---

### Racial Healing and Relationship Building

---

Racial Healing and Relationship Building involves ways for all of us to heal from the wounds of the past, to build mutually respectful relationships across racial and ethnic lines that honor and value each person’s humanity, and to build trusting intergenerational and diverse community relationships that better reflect our common humanity. Racial healing is about building relationships, connecting people, and expanding the circles of engagement needed for overcoming racial hierarchy and building political will.

#### **POLICIES AND PRACTICES UNDER THE RACIAL HEALING AND RELATIONSHIP PILLAR:**

- Resolutions, dialogue models, racial healing circles, and restorative justice practices aimed at understanding historical harms and repairing relationships.
- Training and capacity-building for practitioners, educators, and service providers around overcoming bias and healing.
- Local truth commissions that promote racial healing.
- Acknowledgement, public apologies, and commitments to redress by localities for their role in slavery and/or advancing systemic racism.

## STORIES OF SUCCESS:

- The Foundation for Louisiana, the coordinating organization for TRHT New Orleans, hosts dialogues about mindfulness, honoring ancestors, and supporting initiatives that promote people coming together to talk about race and racism.
- In Montgomery County, Maryland the [Racial Equity and Social Justice Act](#) mandates racial equity training for more than 8,000 full-time government employees.
- The [Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#), the first such U.S. truth commission, was followed by the Oklahoma Commission to Study the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921 and the [Byrd Foundation for Racial Healing](#), which aims to promote racial healing, fight hate crimes of any kind, and facilitate widespread public dialogue on racial healing through educational programs.
- [Evanston, Illinois](#) passed a resolution acknowledging the city's history of racially motivated policies and practices and creating mechanisms for atonement.

## RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION

[America's Peacemakers: The Community Relations Service and Civil Rights](#)

[Illinois Department of Human Services and the Chicago Community Trust: Healing Illinois](#)

[W.K. Kellogg Foundation: "Restoring to Wholeness: Racial Healing for Ourselves, Our Relationships and Our Communities"](#)

[Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Community Collaboration Sites](#)

[Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Campus Centers](#)

***For more information about Healing Through Policy, visit [debeaumont.org/healing-through-policy](https://debeaumont.org/healing-through-policy).***